

THE
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

ITS ORGANIZATION
ADMINISTRATION
AND FUNCTIONS

By

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO STUDIES IN LIBRARY SCIENCE

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PREFACE

THE increase in university library resources since 1900 has been one of the most distinctive aspects of modern university development in the United States. In spite of this fact and of the corresponding increase in the extent and complexity of university library administrative procedures, there has been no systematic study of the principles and methods which characterize library organization and administration in the major universities of the United States or any formulation of generalizations concerning them.

The need for such a study has long been apparent. The present volume has been prepared to meet this need. Specifically, the purpose of the authors in the preparation of the volume has been to consider systematically the principles and methods of university library organization and administration and to formulate generalizations concerning them which may be useful to university librarians in the effective performance of their highly important task of aiding scholars in teaching and research. While this is the major purpose of the authors, it is also their hope that the study may prove of value to university administrators who are largely responsible for obtaining financial support of the library, to members of university faculties and learned societies who make extensive use of university library materials, and to students of library science who are preparing to cope with the problems of university library administration.

In the preparation of the volume the authors have received generous assistance from many university librarians and university administrators. They are especially indebted to Andrew Eaton, Raynard Swank, and Harold Tucker, who have served as research assistants in collecting statistical and bibliographical information, and to Mrs. Doris Flowers, who assisted in seeing the volume through the press. They are likewise indebted to Ralph A. Beals, Leon Carnovsky, Donald Coney, Carleton B. Joeckel, Guy R. Lyle, and John Dale Russell, who have read the manuscript in part or in whole and have been most generous in constructive suggestion and criticism.

L. R. W. AND M. F. T.

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